

East Bay Services

Boycott the bridge! Bah, humbug to BART! Enjoy CSZ warmth and spirit in the East Bay. Once a month CSZ offers Friday night services at a member's home in the East Bay. Led by members of the Ritual Committee and using Sha'ar Zahav liturgy, the East Bay service offers a wonderful opportunity for Shabbat worship, friendship, and the best in potluck onegs. All CSZ members and friends are invited to join us at 8:15 pm on the third Friday of each month.

Meet with us on September 20 at the home of Emily Tincher, 1726 Grant St. in Berkeley (843-1405 for directions). In October we will be at Ed Tanowitz' home, 1612 East 38th St. in Oakland (482-4825 for directions). Check the *Forward* for dates and locations of future services, or call Shelley Spiro (482-5967) for information. We look forward to seeing you in the East Bay.

—Larry Wexler, Ritual Chair



Allan Gold, our newly elected president, looking resplendent in tallit and smiles.

Fall Classes Line-Up at CSZ

Join us for our exciting line-up of fall classes co-sponsored with Lehrhaus Judaica and the San Francisco Jewish Community Center.

Beginning Tuesday, October 8, Phyllis Mintzer will again present her acclaimed "Introduction to Judaism" (7:15–8:30 pm in the library) and "Introduction to Prayerbook Hebrew" (8:30–9:45 pm in the library). Both of these classes will consist of 10 sessions.

Rabbi Kahn is excited about leading his class, "Sanctifying Time: Rituals and Spirituality in Daily Life." His class also begins on Tuesday, October 8 and lasts for eight sessions (8–9:30 pm in the sanctuary/oneg room).

On Wednesdays, Rabbi Nancy Flam will offer "Sickness and Health, Using Jewish Sources." This class begins October 9 and runs eight sessions (7:30–9 pm in the library).

Leah Sudrin will teach a class on "Judaism and Social Action" beginning Thursday, October 10 for eight sessions (7–8:30 pm in the sanctuary).

The Adult Education Committee subsidizes a portion of the fees for CSZ members. The Rabbi's class is free to members. For more information call the office.

Yiddish Anyone?

So Nu? It is a *rubbeleh* or *chutzpah* you need already? Our member Henry Carrey has offered to help. He will present a course on Yiddishkeit—a little drama, a little literature, a few songs, and the basics of the Yiddish language. This introduction to Yiddish will not only tell you about the language but will have you speaking and reading in the eight sessions beginning Thursday, October 12. The class will be held in the sanctuary from 8:30 to 9:30 pm. Tuition is \$10 for members and \$25 for non-members. So Nu, come join us.

—Adult Education Committee

High Holidays Update

Attendance

Tickets for High Holiday evening services (erev Rosh Hashanah and Kol Nidre) were mailed to CSZ members near the end of August, and by now you should have received yours. A special effort has been made to ensure that every CSZ member who is up to date on last year's dues pledge and this year's first-quarter pledge installment will be guaranteed a seat in the main sanctuary at the Unitarian Center. (Daytime Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur services do *not* require a ticket for main sanctuary seating.)

Requests for guest tickets, accompanied by a suggested donation of \$40–60 per ticket per service (\$18 for people whose incomes are in a lower range), were initially limited to one ticket per service so that all members could have the opportunity to invite a guest if they wished.

Now that the holidays are upon us,

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Policy

Please note the following additions to last issue's policy article. A full schedule appears on page 13.

Onegs and Break Fast

Join us for an oneg after Rosh Hashanah Ma'ariv (evening) services at the Unitarian Center. In place of an oneg after Rosh Hashanah Musaf services, join us for our Seudat Mitzvah at Fort Point. Services on the second day of Rosh Hashanah will be followed by an oneg at CSZ. There will be a large "break fast" oneg at the Unitarian Center after neilah, the closing service of Yom Kippur.

AIDS Food Drive

One of the reasons we fast on Yom Kippur is to remind ourselves of the hunger of those in need. As we have done for the last four years, CSZ will collect non-perishable food for the AIDS Food Bank at our Kol Nidre service. Please bring a bag of food

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Adam and Other News

If the High Holidays are the time for change and new beginnings, it was Rosh Hashanah in July at our house! As many of you know, Dan and I decided some time ago that we would welcome children in our family. On July 10, we got a phone call and on July 16, we brought Adam David Bellm Kahn home. Adam was born on June 17. He is with us as a foster care placement through the county's Fost-Adopt Program. We hope to adopt him someday, and chances for this look good.

As I am sure you can imagine, a lot of adjusting and quick planning has been required. With the Va'ad's approval, I combined my previously scheduled vacation with parental leave and have been able to work at home throughout August. I would like to express my thanks to the officers, board and especially the members of the Ritual Committee who have all helped to allow me to be at home during these first weeks of our son's life. I apologize for any inconvenience my unexpectedly lengthy absence has caused and appreciate your understanding of these special circumstances.

With only six days to prepare and no baby things, we would have been unprepared with the myriad things a baby

needs if it were not for the outpouring of support from our extended congregational family. While we still have had to go through a lot of emotional changes, every material thing we could possibly need—from clothes to car seat to furniture—was dropped off at our door. The unqualified enthusiasm and faith we have received from so many of you already has been an important source of strength. Obviously, the arrival of this new family member will require changes in how and when I do my work. I will be back full time beginning with the High Holidays. I expect to be working more at home in these first months but will always remain available to see or speak to you. Please do not hesitate to call the office to reach me or to schedule an appointment.

We look forward to introducing Adam to you and to his growth in this nurturing community.

A few other items:

Adult bar/bat mitzvah: If you are interested in becoming an adult bar/bat mitzvah, please call the office. We will organize a class if interest warrants.

Grief: If you are interested in participating in a short-term bereavement support group for people mourning re-

cent loss, please call the office and let me know of your interest.

PWA/HIV gatherings: A shabbat dinner for people with HIV or AIDS will be held this fall; details will be in next month's *Forward*.

Kadimah: We still have openings in Kadimah, our outstanding religious school program. If you know of parents with primary age children who are looking for a progressive, spiritually rich and exciting Jewish educational program, please encourage them to consider our program. With best wishes for a High Holiday season of sweetness and renewal, *L'shanah tovah tikatevu v'tichatemnu*.

—Rabbi Yoel H. Kahn

The Jewish Gaily Forward is published by Congregation Sha'ar Zahav, 220 Danvers at Caselli, San Francisco, California 94114, (415) 861-6932. Permission to reproduce material is freely given, and credit would be appreciated.

Members of the Congregation receive the *Forward*. For a donation of \$18/year, non-members will receive the *Forward*.

All newsletter copy should be typed, double-spaced and is due no later than the date of the Va'ad meeting. It should be sent to the synagogue office, marked to the attention of the *Forward*. All material is subject to editing; material will not be returned.

Members of the Newsletter Committee are Howard Blechman, chair, Matthew Abergel, Leonard Brill, Ellen Murland, Irene Ogus, Alita Rosenfeld, and Lane Schickler (general editorial and production), Michael Bettinger (photographer), Rick Wilson (advertising coordinator), Alex Ingersoll, Merry Luskin, Sam Thal, Lin Turner, Eli Weinstein and Ron Wilmot (distribution). The *Forward* is typeset by David Lester, Mouse Type Inc., and printed by Lou Greene.

Display Ads are \$15 per column inch for non-members and \$10 per column inch for members, with discounts available for size and frequency. Ads should be camera ready; any ads that require typesetting, camera and/or artwork will be subject to a one-time production charge.

Classified Ads are \$5 for up to 20 words, plus \$1 for each 10 additional words. No personals accepted.

Payment must accompany ad and should be sent to Congregation Sha'ar Zahav, 220 Danvers at Caselli, San Francisco, California 94114, marked attention *Forward* advertising. The advertising deadline is the second Monday of the month. The *Forward* reserves the right to reject any ad for reasons of taste.

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Presidential Thanks

This past year while I was president of Sha'ar Zahav, many important and exciting things happened in our congregation—crises, progress, fun, sorrow and growth. As always, nothing would have been possible without the devoted hard work of many, many volunteers. I would like to thank the following people who gave so much of themselves to our congregation during the past year:

Matthew Abergel, Nancy-Carol Adler, Don Albert, Bill Ashley-Dobbin, Janine Baer, Al Baum, Ann Bauman, Dan Bellm, Allan Berenstein, Leslie Bergson, Michael Bettinger, Ann Biderman, Claudia Bernard, Paul Blanc, Howard Blechman, Leonard Brill, Cheryl Bryan, Diana Buchbinder, Ken Burke, Tiela Chalmers, Phil Charney, Daniel Chesir, Bob Coffman, Alison Cohen, Paul Cohen, Robert Cohen, Sarah Comerchero, Aaron Cooper, Laurie Davis, Sue Douglass, Jazz Duberman, Shelley Eisenman, Steve Elman, Stuart Feinhor, Rena Frantz, Gail Friedlander, Jeff Friedman, Lyssa Friedman, Jonathan Funk, David Gellman, Susan Gelmis, Ellen Gierson, Allan Gold, Jonathan Goldman, Bill Goldstein, Elliot Gordon, Jane Graeven, Steve Greenberg, Susan Greenspan, Joella Harlan, Allen Harris, Beverly Hewett, Kirk Hinman, Stephan Howard, Frank Hyman, Lawrence Hyman, Alex Ingersoll, Richard Inlander, Debbie Jacobson-Levine, Betty Kalis, Eric Kamm, Bob Katz, Lisa Katz, Rose Katz, Eric Keitel, Allyce Kimerling, Frank Kipnis, Ellen Kugler, Ida Kuluk, Robin Leonard, Ron Lezell, Shirley Liberman, Henry Mach, Mark Mackler, Rachel Mailman, Frank M., Marc Mencher, Jonathan Mesinger, Eve Meyer, Scott Mezistrano, Jeffrey Miller, Julie Moed, Mary Morgan, Lee Morrow, Jose-Luis Moscovich, Patrick Mourjan, Ellen Murland, Florence Nacamulli, Steve Nacamulli, Irene Ogus, Ora Prochovnick, Andrea Piazza, David Pierce, Carolyn Pines, Hal Podgur, Edward Pollock, Steve Polsky, Donna Rabinowitz, Nina Raff, Mike Rankin, Nathan R., Alita Rosenfeld, Jerry Rosenstein, Margaret Rosoff, Jeff Rubin, Lee Ryan, Sue Saperstein, Sharyn Saslasky, Pam Schaffer, Ben Schalit, Joshua Schechtel, Lane Schickler, Randy Schiller, Bill Schlichter, Ruth Schoenbach, Judy Schwartz, David Shaber, Kate Sharp, Kathy Simon, Nancy Snow, Susan So-

bel-Feldman, Gary Sokol, Susan Stahl, David Stein, Robert Stern, Michele Sullivan, Ed Tanovitz, Rob Tat, Sam Thal, Emily Tincher, Marion Trentman, Brett Trueman, Susan Tubbesing, Lin Turner, Steve Unger, Susan Unger, Dana Vinicoff, Eli Weinstein, Sylvia Weisenberg, Rabbi Eric Weiss, Lonnie Weiss, Steve W., Larry Wexler, Ron Wilmot, Rick Wilson, Annie Winters, Frank Yellin, Lina Zerbarini, Mike Zimmerman and Ami Zusman.

Thanks also to Rabbi Kahn, Office Manager Mark Pressler, and to Kadi-mah (religious school) Principal Phyllis Mintzer. As always, it is impressive to see that so many members have been active contributors. Thanks for working together to make a great year in our congregational life.

—Merry Luskin,
President 1990–1991

Library Notes

Our library is continuing to add books to its collection of Jewish non-fiction through donations by members. The library has been including works of non-fiction only, due to our limited space. The policy has been to review donated books before accepting them. Donated books that are not accepted will be returned to the donors, if requested, or will be sold.

The library wishes to thank the following members for their generous donations: Rabbi Yoel Kahn, Gail Friedlander, Richard Inlander, Jeffrey Miller and Henry Carrey.

Some recently donated books are now being used in our education program classes.

Fiction Connection

For those members who enjoy reading fiction by Jewish and gay Jewish authors and would like to participate in a discussion over dinner, explore the Sha'ar Zahav Fiction Connection. Some of the books read over the past few months are: *A Place I've Never Been*, David Leavitt; *The Healer*, Aaron Appelfeld; *The Smile of the Lamb*, David Grossman; and *Deception*, Philip Roth. Call 482-4825 for more information.

—Ed Tanovitz

Women's Chavurah

Art Appreciation

There's going to be an unusual morning of art and breakfast, beginning with a bit more than a continental breakfast at the home of Janis Portal at 10 am on Sunday, October 6. Then we will amble over to the Artiques and Belasarte galleries on Union Street in San Francisco. We may stop over at La Nouvelle Patisserie, a fine bake shop. If interested, please call Janis at 587-6399.

New Members

The Membership Committee is pleased to announce that our congregation gained several new members and friends in July and August. A warm welcome to the latest people to join our family:

Amy Weston and Bonnie Bishop

Gail Hand

Amy Tzipora

Nancy Wecker

Donna Rabinowitz

Arthur Brendze

Ben Brody

Catherine Dodd

Pam Erwin

Stephen and Trudi Hauptman

Joel Shapiro

Morris Ratner

Cynthia Greenberg and Rebecca Tarin

Carol Ann Allen

Juliet Herman and Teri Christian

Jeremy Torz and Steven Macatonia

G'dali Braverman

Susan Morton, Marguerite McIntire and Raphaela McIntire-Morton

Howard Goldberg

Matthew Abergel

Victor Jacob

We're grateful to see our congregation grow. It is up to all of us to help our new members feel welcome as they become active participants in our community.

July and August Va'ad Reports

The July meeting was the first meeting of the newly elected Va'ad. Judy Schwartz served as recorder in the absence of Kathy Simon.

Rabbi Kahn began by expressing his appreciation for being part of the gay and lesbian community, as he anticipates his entrance into the world of parenting. He noted in particular the freedom he enjoys to step outside of traditional roles. He encouraged all of us, in light of our new roles as synagogue leaders, to remember that we are more than any particular role we are playing at any one time. He noted that we are all created in God's image, and encouraged us to see one another as whole, complex people, and not just as the roles we play.

Treasurer Brett Trueman reviewed the year-end financial statement and gave a brief presentation on how to read the monthly financial reports. The 1990-1991 fiscal year ended with a \$4,500 surplus, thanks to changes made mid-year to correct the projected shortfall.

Brett then requested a retroactive change to the 1990-91 budget, to reflect accurately the amounts spent from the Bikkur Cholim Fund and the AIDS Fund. After some discussion it was concluded that no change was necessary because a resolution had been passed a number of years ago authorizing expenditures of up to \$1,000 per quarter (if that amount exists in the AIDS Fund) for synagogue members with AIDS in need.

Tiela Chalmers, program vice president, began the committee reports by explaining her job, which is to oversee implementation of the Long Range Plan. Tiela will be informing all committee chairs of their committees' responsibilities vis-à-vis the Long Range Plan. She will then work with the committee chairs to initiate implementation of the plan. At the request of the Membership Committee, the Va'ad approved two individuals and one family for membership in the congregation. The greeting schedule was passed around, and the responsibilities of greeting were outlined. Ben Schalit, then-chair of the Finance Committee, reviewed the written report submitted to the Va'ad. The Finance Committee supports the plans to create a separate Fundraising Committee. There was some discussion of the role of the Bequests and Donations Committee, and it was decided that this com-

mittee should remain as it stands now—separate from the Finance Committee.

There was some discussion of the budgeting process and the plans to include the Va'ad more in the overall process. The Finance Committee will continue its role of reviewing the budget, monitoring financial statements, and understanding the overall fiscal situation. Finally, the Finance Committee's proposed changes to the Long Range Plan were discussed and approved. The changes involve clarification of responsible committees and individuals for fiscal matters.

Ron Lezell, co-chair of the Dues Committee, reviewed the recent work of the committee and asked for support from the Va'ad for the policies giving special consideration to individuals with dependents or life-threatening illnesses. After considerable discussion, the Va'ad voted to support this policy and recognized its own role in making sure that members and prospective members are aware that the congregation is welcoming and responsive to individuals and families with special circumstances.

The rabbi reported that he would be starting his paternity leave immediately (see the Rabbi's Column page 2). He will be doing High Holiday sermons, but will delegate many other responsibilities. The rabbi explained the coverage situation and noted that he, Allan Gold, and Claudia Bernard will be meeting to work out the details of his leave.

Carolyn Pines, co-chair of High Holidays, reported on the planning to date. Volunteers are needed as ushers for services and to help with the onegs. There was some discussion of the funds collected to date as donations for guest tickets for the holidays.

Tiela Chalmers presented a summary of the evaluations from the Advance. Tiela proposed that leadership return to Wildwood Resort again next year, which was approved. There was some discussion on the need to emphasize the importance of committee chairs attending the Advance.

In the president's report, Allan Gold won approval of the nomination of Roslyn Fuerman to fill the vacant seat on the Dues Committee. He also won approval of the appointment of Paul Cohen, Gary Sokol, Diana Buchbinder, Mike Zimmerman, and Cheryl Bryan to

the Leadership Development Committee. Allan also requested that the Va'ad take action on the request from Library Committee Chair Ed Tanovitz to expend \$500 from the Library Fund for books. The Va'ad approved this request.

The meeting was adjourned with the singing of "Oseh Shalom."

Daniel Chesir began the August meeting with a fitting d'var torah: he noted that the Pirkei Avot encourages us "to study Torah along with an occupation"—in other words, one should not allow study of Torah to cut oneself off from the community. Pirkei Avot also describes working for the congregation as "God's work." Both of these admonishments suggest that there is a connection between doing God's work, doing holy work, and doing work for the community. Obviously, studying Torah is doing God's work; less obviously, we should remember that working for our community, even if it be by discussing such seemingly mundane matters as balancing the budget, is God's work as well.

The next item of business was, in fact, happy news for our budget. Robin Leonard and Eric Keitel reported that Sha'ar Zahav earned over \$8,000 as its share of the profits from the 12th International Conference of Gay and Lesbian Jews. While the Va'ad was delighted at this news, there was discussion of whether this amount of income indicates that the registration fees for the conference were too high. Robin explained that the registration fees were set very close to anticipated actual costs, and the income was generated mostly by the unprecedented number of registrants. Upon motion of acting President Claudia Bernard, the Va'ad commended the conference co-chairs, Robin Leonard, Marc Mencher, and the entire World Congress Committee for making the conference wildly successful spiritually, financially and organizationally.

The Va'ad filled two new volunteer positions which will help our congregation to maintain its current vibrancy and to preserve its history. Claudia named Bill Ashley-Dobbin as archivist, and Robin Leonard as volunteer coordinator. Bill will organize articles, photographs, publications and hand-outs

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Our Park of Living Memory

We used to visit a beautiful place when I was a small child. One day each spring, after all the snow had melted, my mother packed a picnic basket, my father drove our family out of the city, and we went into the country to a beautiful park. There was a canopy of large, old oak trees, beautiful grass and a wooden bench. My sister and I helped our father paint the bench green and later played with the many acorns scattered all over the grass. Mother removed leaves and winter debris from a special place—her father's grave. The park was known to me as "The Cemetery." My memories of our visits there are among the happiest of my childhood.

Many people have unpleasant associations and negative feelings about cemeteries. By definition a cemetery is a place for burial of the dead; it is as closely associated with death as a place can be (and we do not enjoy thinking about or looking at death). My experiences have taught me that cemeteries are life-affirming places. I have had an adventure searching for and finding a Jewish cemetery of the Old West near Virginia City. I have explored many exquisite parks where I have read hundreds of fascinating stories on headstones. And I have had moments of profound peace in cemeteries.

Congregation Sha'ar Zahav's cemetery is located in the Hills of Eternity Memorial Park. A "memorial" by definition is anything meant to help people remember. Memory is a living thing. Our cemetery is a beautiful little piece of the living Earth dedicated to the memory

living in each of us of all those people we loved, still love, and who have died. Hills of Eternity is incredibly rich in history and tradition. Adjacent to our area are some of the very oldest tombstones in California, each capable of bringing to us a new living story of someone who died many years ago.

Our cemetery is a living memorial park, a place of peace and beauty, which can renew each of us and remind us of a wealth of happy times with those who have shared our lives. Our annual visit (see separate story on page ???) is a perfect opportunity to enjoy our cemetery. Or, if you prefer, you can visit any day except Shabbat. As always, we are here to help you make cemetery arrangements, or just to talk to you or show you around. Please feel free to call members of the Cemetery Committee: Richard Inlander (821-4134), Paul Cohen (383-8954), or the people at Hills of Eternity: Wayne Caton, Al Caton, Paul Schwartz (756-3633).

—Richard Inlander, Chair

Give Life

The annual High Holiday congregational blood drive will occur Saturday, September 14 from 10:30 am to 2:30 pm at Irwin Memorial Blood Bank, 270 Masonic Ave. at Turk Street. Appointments are available from Jonathan Goldman (641-4231); however, for those who awaken that morning feeling extra compassionate, walk-ins are also welcomed. The process takes about 45 minutes and there is ample free parking.

Non-donors are encouraged to stop by our "schmooze room" with home-made treats for our donors or just to offer the gift of gab. Volunteers are needed to help staff the welcome table. Also we would like to borrow several "Walkmans" so donors may give blood to musical accompaniment.

Anyone with questions about eligibility or other aspects of blood donation should call Jonathan. Credits in our account will be available to members should a transfusion be required (elective or emergency) in San Francisco and Marin counties.

So step forward gaily on September 14. See you at Irwin!

Annual Cemetery Visit This Month

Sha'ar Zahav's High Holiday visit to our cemetery at the Hills of Eternity will be on Sunday, September 15 at 10 am. This is the fourth year that we shall observe the tradition of visiting the graves of and remembering deceased loved ones on the Sunday between Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur.

At our consecration ceremony two years ago, we gathered near the grave of past President Cheryl Orvis and called to mind all our members who have died. We continue our remembrance this year with a short service which will include the names of all our deceased members.

Cemeteries provide a beautiful and peaceful environment, and historically have been used for recreational visits as well as for their primary memorial purpose. In many of our families the tradition of meeting at the cemetery to observe *kever avot* (visiting ancestors' graves) was accompanied by the sharing of a light meal. The Cemetery Committee will continue our custom of following the short service with a simple breakfast.

All members and friends of the congregation are invited to join us in observing this beautiful and moving tradition. To help us plan properly, please call if you will be attending. Paul Cohen (383-8954) or Richard Inlander (821-4134).

Directions to the cemetery: Highway 280 to Serramonte Boulevard. Serramonte east, past auto row, to signal at El Camino Real. Right on El Camino, then left at second cut in the center divider, into Hills of Eternity. Drive up through cemetery to outdoor mausoleum on your right and park.

Screening Party

Don't miss the screening party and fundraiser this fall for *Everyone Has a Name*, a 15-minute version of the documentary (in progress) of the Names Project AIDS Memorial Quilt Tour in Israel. Interviews raise issues of government policy towards AIDS, homophobia, AIDS in the Arab community, AIDS education in schools, etc. Please come and help support AIDS education in Israel.

Condolences

To **Paul Quinn and Steve Unger** on the death of their friend, Terry Lee Carlson.

To **Jeff Rubin** on the death of his mother, Muriel Rubin.

To **Allen Harris** on the death of his friend, Alan Bussinger.

To **Scott Feinstein** on the death of his lover, Ernie Weinstein.

To **Susan Gelmis** on the death of her mother, Ruth Gelmis.

To **Sharon Simma Lieberman** on the death of her mother, Mollie Lieberman.

To **the congregation** on the death of member Seth Miller.

Contributions

Sha'ar Zahav welcomes all contributions, of all sizes, to mark any event, and to any of our funds. Contributions will be acknowledged in the *Forward* unless requested otherwise.

Donations were made to Sha'ar Zahav's funds in the past months by the following contributors:

General Fund

We encourage donations to the General Fund in particular to help offset our budget deficit.

Mrs. Louise Afeltra, in memory of her dear friend, Alex Konski and in gratitude for CSZ's many faithful ministries to him
Benjamin Gold, in honor of his son Allan's presidency

Jonathan Funk and John Arnold, in honor of Susan Berger's engagement

Marion Trentman, in honor and appreciation of our Hebrew teacher, Phyllis Mintzer, and the year our Hebrew class has spent together

Tiela Chalmers, in honor of Yoel and Dan
Robert Tat, in honor of Yoel Kahn and Dan Bellm's anniversary

Paul Cohen and Bob Gutterman, in honor of the kiddushin of Yoel and Dan

Eve Meyer, in commemoration of the yahrzeits of Hilda Meyer and Renato De Leon

Julie Moed, in memory of her mother, Lillian

Alan Kraus, in honor of the wedding of Steve Gaynes and Conrad Reny

Steve Elman, in honor of Yoel and Dan
Alex Ingersoll and David Stein, in honor of Yoel and Dan's renewal of commitment

Bill Cox, in memory of his roommate Sydney B. Heckler

Caroline Isaacs and Randy Mayers, in commemoration of the yahrzeit of Caroline's cousin Gene Krakower

Perry Paker, in commemoration of the yahrzeit of Gussie Paker

Patricia Cohn, in memory of Shirley Neiman, grandmother of Phyllis Snyder
Paul Zinor and Kiki Zinor, in honor of the marriage between Steve Gaynes and Conrad Reny

Faye Cohen, in honor of Dr. Allan Gold being elected president of Sha'ar Zahav

Jon Arnold, in honor of Jonathan Funk's birthday

Rosalinda Del Moral, in honor of Dr. Eric Keitel for making her foot happy and well.

Mike Zimmerman, in memory of his father, Allan Zimmerman

Sharon Saslafsky and Catherine Dodd, in memory of Eric Lasner, nephew of David Stein

Jonathan Funk and Jon Arnold, in honor of

Adam David Bellm Kahn

Larry Wexler, welcoming Jay Robert Wexler, born July 20

Lane Schickler

Allen Harris, in memory of Nettie Berkowitz

AIDS Fund

Allan Berenstein, in memory of Alex Konski

Allen Berenstein, in memory of Ernie Weinstein

Paul Cohen and Bob Gutterman, in memory of Ernie Weinstein

Dorothy and Matthew Auerbach, in memory of Seth Miller

Allen Harris, in memory of E. Allen Bussinger

Debra Kent Friedlander, in honor of Jay Cohen's being appointed to the board of the San Francisco AIDS Foundation, and in memory of his nephew Jerome

Bikkur Cholim Fund

Betty Kalis, in memory of Mary Crilley

Allen Harris, in memory of Netta Charney and Jim Perkins

Building Fund

Steve Gaynes and Conrad Reny

New Friends

Perhaps you have family or friends who have visited Sha'ar Zahav? Even though they may live at a distance, they may have been touched by our spirit or moved by our liturgy. For those who were so inspired, we have created a new category of congregational affiliation, the Friends of Sha'ar Zahav. A friend supports the congregation with an annual financial contribution, and in return becomes part of our extended family—receiving our newsletter, a discount on CSZ materials, and a new semi-annual publication (for friends only) *Notes from the Rabbi*. Friends live outside the Bay Area and are not members. For example, friends do not receive tickets to High Holidays, or other CSZ services. However, friends share our ideals and aspirations. To kick off this program, we ask each member who is so inclined to send a copy of the enclosed invitation to a friend or relative during the High Holiday season. Also, CSZ members are invited to join the Friends Committee; call Steve Unger, committee chair (863-0719). Let's make our world a whole lot bigger!

Children's Education Fund

Robert Coffman

Joan Gelfand, in commemoration of the yahrzeit of her father, Seymour Gelfand

Rabbi's Discretionary Fund

Lolma Olson, in commemoration of her brother's yahrzeit

Audrey Adelson, in honor of Rabbi Yoel Kahn and Dan Bellm's 10th anniversary

Donald Abrams, in honor of Yoel and Dan's anniversary

Bill Goldstein, in honor of Yoel and Dan's aufruf

Lolma Olson and Beth Reed, to celebrate our two-year anniversary

Bill Schlichter, in commemoration of the yahrzeit of Richard Schlichter

Larry Wexler, welcoming Adam David Bellm Kahn

Dan Halpern, in memory of his daughter, Sara

Jonathan and Jane Mesinger, in memory of Saul Mesinger

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Birthdays

9/1	Tom Rothgeisser
9/2	Jeff Friedman
9/2	Sharon Simma Lieberman
9/3	Sandra Morris
9/3	Craig Gotfried
9/3	Wendy Oberlander
9/6	Lee Ryan
9/7	Al Baum
9/9	Mark Weisman
9/9	Jeremy Glen Hoffman
9/12	Robin Leonard
9/13	Susan Foster
9/14	Michael Lobel
9/19	Rob Tat
9/20	Elizabeth Katz
9/21	Janine M. Baer
9/21	Steven Cronenwalt
9/22	Roslyn Fuerman
9/23	Marianne D. Ades
9/24	Stuart Michael Bronn
9/25	Jean-Charles Bellour
9/27	Ralph Vissell
9/28	Catherine Wisniewski
9/28	Daphne Stuart
9/29	Judith Mara Wolfe
9/30	Joan Gelfand

☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆

The Days of Awe

The Days of Awe, *yomim noraim*, catches the significance of the holidays Yom Kippur and Rosh Hashanah much better than does the term "High Holidays," with which we are more familiar. Although Rosh Hashanah seems to spring upon us with little warning, traditionally the entire month of Elul (the month before Tishri in which the holidays actually fall) has been a time of study and self-examination. As Elul is 30 days long and Yom Kippur is the 10th of Tishri, there are 40 days from the first of Elul until Yom Kippur; these are analogous to the 40 days Moses spent on Mt. Sinai praying and fasting after destroying the golden calf and before returning with the second set of tablets inscribed with the Ten Commandments. At Sha'ar Zahav, we mark this 40-day period by blowing the shofar at all of our services and by using the holiday *nusach* (melodies) as a foretaste of what is to come.

Rosh Hashanah, the New Year, is also known as Yom Teruah, the Day of Sounding the Shofar, and Yom Hazikaron, the Day of Remembrance. These names reflect the major themes of the holiday's liturgy:

- The acceptance of God as Ruler and Creator;
- The recognition that God and Torah were revealed to Moses at Sinai and of our duty to open our hearts to the Torah's message;
- The acknowledgment that God and each of us remember our individual pasts;
- Our plea that we be remembered in the Book of Life.

These themes are most clearly in evidence in the *musaf amidah* which has three central prayers related to the festival:

- The *malchuyot*, which talks of God as Ruler;
- The *zichronot*, which talks of God remembering the past;
- The *shofarot*, which connects the shofar both with important events of the past, such as Sinai, and with important events of the future.

Ten days after Rosh Hashanah, Yom Kippur begins. The holiday is structured around five services, one more than is usual for a Shabbat or festival. They are:

- *Kol Nidre*, an evening service named after its opening prayer;

- *Shacharit*, a morning service;
- *Musaf*, an additional service which includes the *avodah* service, a description of the temple service;
- *Mincha*, an afternoon service, including a reading of the Book of Jonah;
- *Neilah*, a service that is unique in the liturgical calendar.

The themes of the Yom Kippur liturgy are repentance and atonement. Kol Nidre is one of the most famous passages in our liturgy. It is essentially a recognition that even our best intentions can go astray. Kol Nidre is immediately followed by a basically traditional Ma'ariv (evening) service. It is here where we are first introduced to the *Viddui* (confessional prayer) which is recited in all of the Yom Kippur services and is composed of two parts: the *Ashamnu*, a listing of general sins; and the *Al Cheit*, a longer and more specific listing of sins.

The Shacharit and Musaf services are similar to those of festivals with a few additions. The most unique feature of musaf is the Avodah service, a detailed recounting of the Temple Service on Yom Kippur. The Avodah was placed here so that by commemorating it we might re-

ceive the atonement that the actual ritual was to have brought about. Traditionally, Yizkor is also part of the musaf service; however, at Sha'ar Zahav it occurs immediately preceding Neilah. The distinctive feature of the Yom Kippur Mincha service is that a haftarah (prophetic reading), the Book of Jonah, is read; during no other time in the Jewish calendar is the haftarah read at Mincha. Jonah is read because it is a document of human change, both communal (that of the Ninevites) and personal (that of Jonah).

Neilah, the concluding service, is unique to Yom Kippur. Its name and imagery are taken from the symbol of the closing of the gates of heaven. This imagery of time running out recurs throughout the service. For example, the Viddui is shortened by the elimination of the Al Cheit as a part of the sense of urgency as we approach the end of Neilah. The service ends with the blowing of the shofar. There is a custom of beginning to build the sukkah immediately after the end of Yom Kippur services and thus the cycle of Jewish holidays continues.

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Your Place at the World Zionist Congress

It is with deep commitment and love for the land and people of Israel that we urge you to join the Association of Reform Zionists of America (ARZA)—the voice of the American Reform Jewish community in Israel. Through its support of the Israeli Reform movement, ARZA helps Israelis to learn and practice the progressive, humanitarian Jewish vision that lies at the heart of the Reform movement, which we at Sha'ar Zahav have helped to shape.

At this critical time in Israel's history, ARZA and the Israeli Reform movement are important voices promoting civil rights, dialogue and democracy. The ARZA-sponsored Israel Religious Action Center as well as other ARZA projects are helping to build a stronger Israel with assertive programs on behalf of non-Orthodox converts who immigrate to Israel; spiritual absorption and education for Soviet and Ethiopian immigrants who know little of progressive Jewish tradition; and equal representation and opportunity for growth of Reform congregations and institutions in Israel.

This year there is an added reason for you to join or renew your ARZA membership. A World Zionist Organization (WZO) Congress will meet in Jerusalem in June 1992 and all paid-up ARZA members will be eligible to vote for delegates to that Congress. The Congress has been meeting every four to five years since first called to order by Theodor Herzl some 85 years ago and is known as the "Parliament of the Jewish People." It provides the only democratically elected forum where Israeli and Diaspora Jews face each other on an equal footing, exchanging views in an open, honest way.

For Reform Jews, the Congress is an especially important means of sending the Israeli government a message on the importance of religious pluralism and political moderation. At the last Congress (December 1987), the ARZA delegation introduced, and the Congress passed, an unprecedented resolution calling on the Knesset to grant equal rights to all streams of Judaism. While the Knesset has yet to follow the WZO's lead on this, it *was* put on notice that Diaspora Jewry will not let the issue rest, foreshadowing the "Who is a Jew?" controversy of the next year and con-

tributing to the government's decision to take the issue off the political agenda—at least for the time being.

In a practical sense, the stakes for Reform Jews are very high. As a result of the last Congress elections which made ARZA the second largest American Zionist party, the Reform Movement gained control of the WZO Department of Jewish Education and Culture which supports educational programs in Israel and around the world. The fact that the Reform Movement is controlling this major WZO department has guaranteed that all religious streams are served and that Reform and Conservative programs receive fair and equitable treatment. The vote for delegates for the June 1992 Congress will determine if the Reform Movement can continue to control this department. In addition, the Congress also determines Reform Movement representation in the Jewish Agency for Israel, which allocates UJA funds to institutions in Israel, including Reform programs.

Please read the enclosed brochure which further describes the work and accomplishments of ARZA and join us by becoming a member or renewing your membership. Your tax-deductible check payable to ARZA (\$20-individual or \$30-household) should accompany the enclosed membership form and be returned to the office. All membership dues must be received in the ARZA New York office by October 1. (We shall forward your check to them.) Act now; make your ARZA membership count for religious pluralism in Israel.

If you have any questions about ARZA, please contact Ron Lezell at 824-4449.

—Rabbi Yoel Kahn
and Ron Lezell

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Missing Stool

A stool called a Bishop's Faldstool, which belongs to one of our renters, the Liberal Catholic Church, is missing from the CSZ basement. This stool is used in ceremonies by the church and is very important to them.

Sometimes items are taken from the synagogue by members for use for special functions; some-times these items are not returned in a timely manner. If this is the case, please return the stool as soon as possible, or contact Mark in the office.

Policy

Continued from page 1
items as part of your Yom Kippur observance.

Healing Service

A liturgy for healing service will take place on the afternoon of Shabbat Shuvah, September 14, at 4 pm in the sanctuary of CSZ. This service is open to everyone—those who are ill, those who are living with illness, those who are mourning a loss, and all who wish to join us in prayer and reflection. This afternoon service concludes with Havdallah.

Sukkot

Services for Sukkot will be held at member families' homes. On Sunday, September 22 at 6 pm, we will gather at the home of Allan Gold and Gary Glasser (424 Central Ave., San Francisco) for a service, celebration and potluck. Please call Steve Elman (651-5857) if you can help build the sukkah that day at noon or would like to help decorate at 1:30 pm. Wait until that weekend to prune your garden, and bring your trimmings to decorate the sukkah.

We will also have a Sukkot service in the sukkah of Rabbi Yoel Kahn and Dan Bellm (61 Ford St., San Francisco) on Saturday, September 28 at 10:30 am.

Simchat Torah

On Simchat Torah we celebrate the completion of the yearly cycle of reading the Torah and then immediately begin the new cycle for the new year. Join us for evening services at CSZ at 7 pm on Sunday, September 29.

Begin your year with a mitzvah!

There are many ways that you can help with our High Holidays. Call our coordinators: Carolyn Pines at 532-9661 or Scott Mezistrano at 681-1714.

Sibling Notes

Beth Ahavah (Philadelphia)—The Women's Chavurah held a conference this past summer, which more than 50 women attended. The focus of the conference was "Women's Relationships in the Bible and Modern Times." Due to the day's overwhelming success, a second conference is planned for February 2, 1992.

Chevrei Tikva (Cleveland)—Congratulations to Chevrei Tikva, now the sixth gay/lesbian outreach congregation to apply for membership in the UAHC. Chevrei Tikva joins Bethe Ahavah (Philadelphia), Beth Chayim Chadashim (Los Angeles), Etz Chaim (Miami), Or Chadash (Chicago) and us.

Etz Chaim (Miami)—This past spring, Etz Chaim mourned the passing of Jay Frier. Jay was a founding member of both Etz Chaim and the World Congress of Gay and Lesbian Jewish Organizations, and his commitment to his synagogue and to Judaism led him to become Etz Chaim's delegate to the UAHC. May his memory be for a blessing.

In other news, Etz Chaim hired a new spiritual leader, Rabbi Rachel Hertzman. Rabbi Hertzman came to Etz Chaim from Temple Beth Am in Jupiter, Fla., and assumed her duties on July 1.

Or Chadash (Chicago)—Congratulations to Or Chadash's past president

Norman Sanfield, who received the Chicago Interfaith Council's Paul Goldman Memorial Award, given to the person who has done the most for Chicago's gay and lesbian religious community. Norman was honored for his contributions to Or Chadash, the World Congress of Gay and Lesbian Jewish Organizations, the National Gay and Lesbian Interfaith Council and the UAHC.

—Robin Leonard,
World Congress Enthusiast

With this installment of Sibling Notes it's time for me to step down after nearly four years. If you'd like to take over (all you need to do is read our sibling congregations' and organizations' newsletters and report on anything of interest), call Eric Keitel, our World Congress delegate (587-5159).

Shop Till You Drop

Chanukah is just around the corner, so now is the time to gear up the gift shop for the rush. We would like to have regular hours, but we need your help. Come volunteer to staff the gift shop. It's a great way to get involved with the synagogue, with a minimal investment of time. Please call Jeff Rubin at 334-7423.

We have lots of exciting new merchandise on order; look for new arrivals after the High Holidays. Also, for all the T-shirt collectors out there, we have the ever-popular Sha'ar Zahav shirt back in stock in all sizes.

In October, we hope to have the new paperback edition of the best-seller *Twice Blessed*.

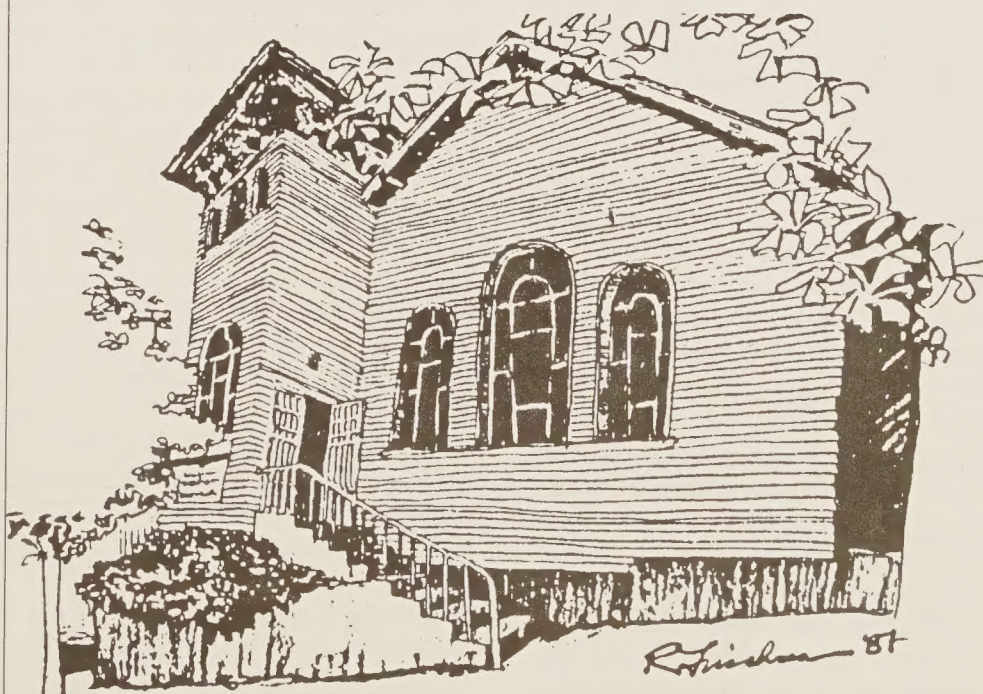
See ad below for our holiday hours.

Classifieds

FUNDAMENTALISTS SAY we're evil. But isn't it time we told our own stories? *All the Dreams/All the Dirt* is planned as a collection of true first-person narratives about childhood and early adult experiences of formal religion and sexuality (facts, feelings or fantasies). The editor encourages submissions, which can be published anonymously, from females and males of all age groups, ethnicities and religious backgrounds, but is searching particularly for Jewish, Islamic and Buddhist contributors. Send in two to three double-spaced pages or the equivalent, with name and address, to: Healing Tales, P.O. Box 77271, San Francisco, CA 94107.

MULTIPLE LOSS AND AIDS. Researchers at the University of California, San Francisco, are beginning a nationwide study documenting the impact of HIV-related bereavements on women and men. Participants complete and anonymous questionnaire about their experience with the loss of partners, family members, or friends who have died from AIDS. The questionnaire can be filled out in the privacy of your own home and returned in a postage-paid mailer to UCSE. If you are interested in participating in this study, please call toll free (800) 934-5677.

Congregation Sha'ar Zahav Gift Shop



New Autumn Hours

Friday Nights 7:30–8:05 • Monday Nights 5–6:15

Come see our new merchandise!

Mega Mission to Israel

I had put revisiting Israel on the back burner—for 24 years!—until I fired up at the opportunity to join the Northern California Shalom '91 Mega Mission held last April.

Someone on the trip put it this way: "What would you have to report after a nine-day trip to Maui? That it was 'restful?'" We, on the other hand, were guaranteed that our trip would leave us exhausted—from doing and seeing so much.

We were based in Jerusalem at the Hyatt on Mount Scopus. We also spent one night in Tiberias on the shore of Lake Kinneret. We spent some time together as a group: all 337 of us danced to Israeli music at the Haas Promenade in Jerusalem as Mayor Teddy Kollek personally welcomed us to his city. We also stopped traffic, literally, on our Solidarity March in downtown Jerusalem. Israeli drivers honked their horns at us—in welcome! We were addressed by Deputy Foreign Minister Netanyahu and welcomed to Tel Aviv by Mayor Shlomo Lahat at a gala dinner reception for us at the Tel Aviv Museum.

However, the rest of the time, we followed separate itineraries on eight buses. I was on "the political bus." Most of us are AIPAC (American Israel Public Affairs Committee) members, and our itinerary afforded us many special meetings with Knesset members, professors, journalists, kibbutz members and Shalom Achshav (Peace Now) leaders. One person on my bus said we would get "political whiplash" from the range of opinions we would be hearing.

For example, we drove to the West Bank kibbutz of Kfar Etzion, located midway between Jerusalem and Hebron, to meet Knesset member Chanan Porat. (The story of Kfar Etzion is told in "O Jerusalem!" by Dominique Lapierre). All but four of the 150 people defending the kibbutz in 1948 were killed. In 1967, when Israel regained the land, the children of the kibbutz members re-established the kibbutz. Needless to say, Porat and other Kfar Etzion members are determined to remain on their land.

We later met another passionate, dynamic spokesperson, a Shalom Achshav activist who is a close friend of Feisal Husseini and many other Palestinian

Arabs. Exploring other Arab-Israeli friendships, we met with a Christian Arab leader from South Lebanon who told us of Israel's "good neighbor" policy in allowing Lebanese people who need medical attention to be treated in Israel's hospitals. Lebanese babies have been born, at no charge, in Israel.

We were in Israel at the loveliest time of the year: wildflowers bloomed everywhere. It was also the time of Israel's back-to-back holidays, Yom Ha'Zikaron (Memorial Day) and Yom H'aAtzma'ut (Independence Day). Driving up north on Yom H'Zikaron, we passed cemeteries filled with people honoring the Jewish state's fallen soldiers. We crossed the Jordan River and ascended to the Golan Heights for a memorial service. The vulnerable Huleh Valley lay below. Syrian bunkers were still in place, and next to our footpath to the memorial was a tangle of beautiful wildflowers and barbed wire.

On Yom Ha'Atzma'ut, celebrated the fifth of Iyar, Israel flags adorned street posts, were draped from balconies and even attached to car antennas. We were often told that to understand Israelis you should visit Israel on the Yom Ha'Zikaron/Yom Ha'Atzma'ut holidays.

What didn't we see? Taste? Experience? We toured the Jewish Quarter of the Old City of Jerusalem; saw the Chagall windows, and the Dead Sea Scrolls at the Shrine of the Book. We went to Yad Vashem in Jerusalem and the Museum of the Diaspora in Tel Aviv. We drove as far south as Masada and the Dead Sea, and to Israel's northernmost town, Metulla, with its luxurious "Canada Center," a community center funded by Canadian Jews. We had home hospitality visits and joined the crush of pre-Shabbat shoppers at the Machane Yehuda open air market.

In 1966, I had visited Israel for 10 days, but had not been able to visit the Western Wall, as it was then off limits under Jordanian control. Now it meant very much to me to finally be able to see the Jewish Quarter of the Old City and go to the Wall on Shabbat.

I went to the "women's side" of the *mechitza* at the Wall, and was able to slip into its crevices some tightly folded pieces of paper, containing blessings and

prayers for loved ones. Two women silently and graciously moved to make room for me directly in front of the wall, so that I could gently touch the smooth, pale stones. The "bottom" stones in the wall are about chest height and polished smooth by the weather and possibly also the touches and kisses of those *davening*. It was a very peaceful moment. A few soldiers peered down from the Temple Mount to guarantee our tranquility.

Another high point: greeting a plane load of Soviet *olim* at Ben Gurion airport. After our 2 am wake-up call, we piled into our buses and drove from Jerusalem to the airport, to greet them with flowers, flags, songs and smiles of encouragement. The *olim*—people of every age and economic status—arrived at 4 am. They were from Leningrad, Samarkand and Tashkent. They arrived carrying sleeping children, musical instruments, small parcels. One man brought his dog. These tired, expectant people would become Israelis in a few hours. I wondered how my own 16-year-old great-grandmother had felt, arriving in the United States in the 1880s? Much like these people I'm sure. I patted two elderly women on they back as they passed me by and they both turned to hug me warmly.

I came back from Israel with a great deal of pride in what the Jewish state has accomplished. I have a longing to go back—to study, to visit, maybe to live. The Northern California Federations did a wonderful job organizing our itineraries, and I can see why many people told me that going on a "Mission" is a wonderful way to see Israel. See for yourself. Israel is waiting to welcome you.

—Beverly Hewett

Volunteers wanted
to tutor our Kadimah
(religious school)
children in Hebrew
for approximately
30 minutes a week.
Please call the office.

Volunteer Recognition

Our congregation's successful and myriad programs are based on the continued volunteerism of our members. We will be proudly featuring some of these members in the *Gaily Forward* this coming year. For September, we honor two individuals whose efforts have made our High Holiday services both beautiful and meaningful.

Shirley Liberman arrived in the United States from her native Yorkshire, England as a young woman and fell in love with our land and our people. During almost a decade as a group tour guide, she visited every state, but never lost her affection for the Bay Area as home.

She has been a CSZ member since 1981, when she was owner of Noble Pies on 24th Street. As a professional among our many amateur chefs, Shirley was asked to help with the Purim food booth in 1982. The rest is history; Shirley was hooked and she helped coordinate the food at our Purim extravaganzas and the Chanukah parties for most of the last decade.

When the High Holidays were coordinated by Jay Feinstein and David Gass, they asked her to take over the Oneg and Break the Fast from the retiring Lennie Brill. For the past five years, she has managed the production for our 1,000 members and guests. After Nancy Meyer moved to Seattle in 1987, it didn't take a lot of convincing for Shirley also to take on the congregational seder.

Shirley views herself as a typical volunteer for the congregation: she enjoys the community and feels her contribution of energy is part of her commitment to the congregation. She has met both new friends and acquaintances through her work on individual projects and believes strongly that "what you give—comes back."

Shirley also volunteers for Project Open Hand—"Someone needs to peel potatoes, and I can do that." As a successful real estate agent for the past six years, she has also been able to help many synagogue members to find their dream homes. "Members have volunteered alongside me and their comfort

with me has resulted in good business for both of us."

Scott Mezistrano grew up in the vibrant and traditional Sephardic community in Seattle. He stayed through college and then on a visit to the Bay Area, was taken with San Francisco. On that initial visit, he came to Sha'ar Zahav for services and immediately felt he had found a home, "a place where I could celebrate both my Jewish and gay identities." During his parents' visits to his new home, Shabbat services at Sha'ar Zahav have become a tradition.

Scott started volunteering when Merry Luskin called and asked him to volunteer as oneg chair in March 1989. By that fall he had surrendered that role to serve as assistant to High Holidays



Shirley

Chair Steve Greenberg. In 1990 and again this year he is serving as co-coordinator of the High Holidays.

His attention to all the elements that make the services go smoothly

is not unusual for Scott. As payroll manager for a large international corporation, his attention to detail is extremely important as "everyone is watching and no one appreciates errors in their paychecks." Scott makes time for the synagogue, because he "wants the congregation to be an important part of his life."

As a relatively new member of the Ritual Committee, he has found leading services to be a wonderful opportunity to "join with the assembled congregants and guests in celebrating Shabbat and helping meet our spiritual needs." Scott doesn't just enjoy singing and chanting with us; he is also a proud member of the San Francisco Gay Men's Chorus. Both the chorus and the congregation have "helped him meet new friends who have become his San Francisco family."

Photo oops!

Due to an oversight, photo credit in our last issue was not given to Michael Bettinger, our photographer. Michael took those photos, as well as the ones in this issue.

Social Inaction: A Crisis in Commitment

Have you often felt proud of Sha'ar Zahav's long tradition of social action and involvement? Do you find yourself boasting to your friends and family about the work we do in the wider Jewish community, for Ethiopian Jews, in support of choice, for Central American refugees? Well, for the next six months, you will have to put your boasting soapbox back in the closet.

After years of unstinting work, the co-chairs of the Social Action Committee (Lisa Katz and Jonathan Messinger) are taking a well-deserved break. Many of us are proud of Sha'ar Zahav's work, but not many of us were doing any part of that work, and Lisa and Jonathan are exhausted from doing it all themselves.

While they recuperate, CSZ needs people interested in doing a little work on social justice issues. You do not have to be a rabid radical, or be interested in all the issues the committee has worked on in the past. You may work on only one project in only one area. But part of our Jewish responsibility is to work as Jews on "tikkun olam" (repairing the world): helping Soviet Jews settle in the United States and Israel, learning more about the Middle East peace process, working on issues of gay rights and homelessness. Call the synagogue office or Tiela Chalmers at 431-4312 to do your part.

Naches

To Lyssa Friedman and Daphne Stuart, on their kiddushin.

To Tova Green and Fran Peavey, on their kiddushin.

To Steve Gaynes and Conrad Reny, on their wedding.

To Rabbi Kahn and Dan Bellm, on their kiddushin and on the arrival of Adam David Bellm Kahn.

To Arnie Jackson, on the marriage of his daughter.

To Dr. Milton Estes, on his election to the board of the Bureau of Jewish Education.

Va'ad Reports

Continued from page 4

(used, for example, at life-cycle ceremonies), and will make these materials accessible to the congregation. The archivist will also work with the Education Committee to put together an oral history of our congregation. As volunteer coordinator, Robin will assist committees in recruiting members, and to assist members of the congregation in identifying committees and projects in which they are interested.

Allan Gold, Claudia Bernard and Tiela Chalmers recently attended a UAHC-sponsored leadership conference. Claudia and Tiela reported that they felt proud to represent Sha'ar Zahav. Participants from other congregations were very impressed with our congregation, and showed interest both in specifically

Oneg Sponsors

During recent months, onegs were sponsored by the following generous people:

- 6/14 Allan and Tybil Kahn, in honor of Dan and Yoel's kiddushin
- 6/21 Seth Miller, in memory of his father's yahrzeit
- 6/28 Tova Green and Fran Peavy, in honor of their kiddushin
- 7/5 Jonathan Funk and John Arnold, in honor of the visit of Jonathan's parents
- 7/12 Daphne Stuart and Lyssa Friedman, in honor of their kiddushin, and Dorothy and Benjamin Gold, in honor of Allan Gold's presidency and the new officers
- 7/19 Mike Rankin, in honor of the Aliyah of the Beta Israel of Ethiopia
- 7/26 Henry and Edna Trueman, in honor of Brett Trueman and Mark Miller
- 8/9 Robin Leonard and Marc Mencher, in honor of the organizing committee of the 12th International Conference of Gay and Lesbian Jews, and all the members and friends of CSZ who provided home hospitality to our out-of-town guests
- 8/16 Ruth Schoenbach and Lynn Eden, to celebrate the 20th anniversary of their affair and the fifth anniversary of their life together

All you have to do to sponsor an oneg is to think of the occasion and contact the synagogue office (861-6932). The cost of sponsoring an oneg is \$50. You can also provide the food, flowers, etc. for a more personal touch.

gay/lesbian/Jewish matters, and also in our congregation's general organizational structure. Allan spoke eloquently at the conference about the need for mainstream congregations to recognize their gay and lesbian members.

During a discussion of High Holidays, Tiela reported that a substantial number of people apparently misunderstood the intent of the ticket/donation form, and sent in \$40 along with a request for two tickets, rather than \$40 for each ticket. Tiela noted that thus far, we are unfortunately well under our budget projections for High Holiday contributions. Susan Unger reported that as of the ticket-request deadline, nearly one-half of the congregation had not yet requested High Holiday tickets, and she outlined a policy about how tickets would be allocated to those members. The Va'ad agreed that the ticket policy, both with regard to distribution to members, and with regard to donations, should be re-evaluated next year. Ida Kuluk announced that Rebecca Weiner has been hired to plan and coordinate the High Holidays' children's services.

Committee reports contained good news: Steve Unger impressed everyone on the Va'ad with his wonderful work on the "Friends of Sha'ar Zahav" program. He presented a brochure which will be mailed with the newsletter describing the program. Larry Wexler, chair of the Ritual Committee, reported that under the excellent leadership of Steve Greenberg, East Bay services have been quite successful. They have lovely atmosphere, with roughly 12 to 18 people attending each service. Potluck onegs are working well. Larry's only concern is that he anticipated that more children would attend the services. The new East Bay service coordinators will be Shelley Spiro and Isha Mayim.

The Va'ad approved 16 individuals and four families as new members of the congregation. Judy Schwartz, chair of the Membership Committee, informed the Va'ad that membership requests were still coming in, and would probably continue to do so until High Holidays. The Va'ad acted on Judy's suggestion to appoint a subcommittee which could accept new members through a special, expedited process until the High Holidays. Building Committee member Ellen Giersen reported

that badly needed repairs and renovations had been postponed last year during the congregation's budget crisis. On her recommendation, the Va'ad authorized the Building Committee to go ahead with cost and design analyses of the needed work.

Concerned about the congregation spending \$50 or more over what was donated by sponsors on onegs, Office Manager Mark Pressler suggested new ways of saving money, such as ordering less food. Bill Ashley-Dobbin has agreed to be oneg chair if he can find other volunteers to be present at the onegs.

The Va'ad thanked Claudia for her excellent leading of the meeting in Allan Gold's absence, and the meeting was adjourned with the singing of "Oseh Shalom."

—Kathy Simon

Attendance

Continued from page 1

and as long as there are main sanctuary seats still available, we welcome members' requests for extra guest tickets, as well as requests from non-members and the general public who wish to attend our evening services. To guarantee a seat, reservations must be made in advance by calling the office. At that time, arrangements can be made for guest and non-member donations to reserve these seats. On the evenings of the services, people without reservations will be accommodated once all ticketed attendees have entered the main sanctuary.

Overflow rooms with sound piped in from the main sanctuary will be open to all without a suggested donation, and CSZ volunteers will help officiate in these rooms. In keeping with CSZ's tradition of making our services as accessible as possible, no one will be refused admittance because of inability to contribute.

Main sanctuary doors will open at 6:30 pm. If you have any special needs to hold particular seats (for example, due to sight or hearing impairment, or children who might get restless and need to take a break in the lobby), please arrange for these in advance by calling Gary Sokol (566-5946). If you will need wheelchair access (including special parking), please advise our office immediately (861-6932) so that we can be prepared to accommodate you.

High Holidays 1991-5752 Service Schedule

All services will be held at the Unitarian Center, 1187 Franklin at Geary, unless otherwise indicated below.

Rosh Hashanah, First Day

Sunday, September 8

7:30 pm, Ma'ariv

Monday, September 9

10 am, Shacharit, Musaf, and Children's Service

1:30 pm, Seudat Mitzvah

(festival meal) at Fort Point

3 pm, Tashlich at Fort Point

Rosh Hashanah, Second Day

Tuesday, September 10

10 am, Shacharit and Musaf at

Congregation Sha'ar Zahav

Shabbat Shuvah

Friday, September 13

8:15 pm, Ma'ariv at

Congregation Sha'ar Zahav

Saturday, September 14

10 am-2 pm, Blood drive, Irwin Memorial, 250 Masonic

4 pm, Healing Service at

Congregation Sha'ar Zahav

Cemetery Visit

Sunday, September 15

10 am, Hills of Eternity, Colma

Yom Kippur

Tuesday, September 17

7:30 pm, Kol Nidre

Wednesday, September 18

10 am, Shacharit, Musaf and

Children's Service

3:30 pm, Minchah

5 pm, Yizkor, Neilah and

Havdalah

Sukkot

Sunday, September 22, home of

Allan Gold and Gary Glasser, 424 Central Ave.

12 noon, Sukkah building

1:30 pm, Sukkah decorating

6 pm, Service, celebration and potluck

Saturday, September 28, home of

Rabbi Yoel Kahn and Dan Bellm,

61 Ford St., San Francisco

10:30 am, Shacharit

Simchat Torah

Sunday, September 29

7 pm, Ma'ariv, Congregation

Sha'ar Zahav

Synagogue Information

Rabbi Yoel Kahn

Officers:

President, Allan Gold

Administrative Vice President,

Claudia Bernard

Program Vice President,

Tiela Chalmers

Treasurer, Brett Trueman

Recorder, Kathy Simon

Va'ad (Board) Members:

Phil Charney

Daniel Chesir

Steve Elman

Lisa Katz

Ida Kuluk

Jeffrey Miller

Nathan Robinson

Judy Schwartz

Susan Unger

Office Personnel:

Manager, Mark Pressler

Committee Chairs:

Archivist, Bill Ashley-Dobbin

Bikkur Cholim, by committee

Brotherhood, Eric Keitel

Building, by committee

Bylaws, Edward Pollock

Cemetery, Richard Inlander

Children's Chavurah, Audrey

Adelson & Joan Lefkowitz

Cookbook Project, Robin Leonard

Dues, David Stein & Ron Lezell

Education, by committee

Finance, by committee

Gift Shop, Jeff Rubin

Israel Chavurah, Ron Lezell

Long-Range Planning, Tiela Chalmers & Daniel Chesir

Membership, Judy Schwartz

Newsletter, Howard Blechman

Oneg, by committee

Past Presidents Council, Don Albert

Personnel, Claudia Bernard

Public Relations, Sharyn Saslasky

Religious School, Mary Morgan &

Diana Buchbinder

Ritual, Larry Wexler

Social Action, Jonathan Mesinger

& Lisa Katz

Social Program, Marc Mencher

Volunteer Coordinator, Robin Leonard

Women's Chavurah, Ann Biderman

Office Hours: Mon. 8-5; Tues. 8-4:30; Wed., Thu. 8-2:30; Fri. 8-3. Phones will be answered Mon.-Fri. 10-2.

Services are held every Friday evening beginning at 8:15 pm (except as noted), with an Oneg Shabbat following services. Services are generally held on the second and last Saturday of each month at 10:30 am—check calendar for each month.

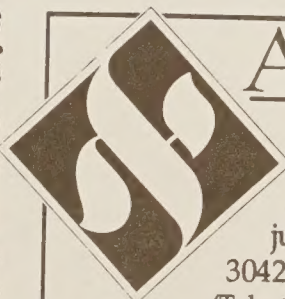
Library Hours: Open during office hours, and 30 minutes before and after Friday night services.

Gift Shop Hours: Mondays 5-6:15 pm; Fridays, 7:30-8:05 pm

Emergency Number: In an emergency, the Congregation can be contacted outside of office hours by calling 420-9718.

Member of the Union of American Hebrew Congregations (Mike Rankin, Allyce Kimerling, Liaisons) and of the World Congress of Gay and Lesbian Jewish Organizations (Eric Keitel, Liaison).

Congregation Sha'ar Zahav (Congregation of the Golden Gate) is located in the Upper Market District of San Francisco at 220 Danvers at Caselli, which is one block south of the intersection of 18th and Market streets. By public transport, take MUNI bus 33 Stanyan to 18th and Danvers and walk one block south on Danvers to Caselli.



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655-1977



Congregation Sha'ar Zahav

שער זהב

220 DANVERS AT CASELLI, SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA 94114

(415) 861-6932

SEPTEMBER

אלול-תשרי

1 Sunday 22 Elul	10 Tuesday 2 Tishri Rosh Hashanah • 10am, Shacharit and Musaf at CSZ*	18 Wednesday 10 Tishri Yom Kippur • 10am, Shacharit, Musaf and Children's Service* • 3:30pm, Minchah • 5pm, Yizkor, Neilah*	24 Tuesday 16 Tishri • 7:30pm, Newsletter proofing/layout
2 Monday 23 Elul	11 Wednesday 3 Tishri	19 Thursday 11 Tishri • 7:30pm, Bikkur Cholim • 7:30pm, Newsletter editing, 370 Funston	25 Wednesday 17 Tishri • 7:30pm, "Trip to Israel" meeting
3 Tuesday 24 Elul	12 Thursday 4 Tishri • 7:30pm, Education Committee meeting	20 Friday 12 Tishri • 8:15pm, Shabbat Services, Tiela Chalmers • 8:15pm, East Bay Services, 523-6775 for information	26 Thursday 18 Tishri • 7:30pm, Ritual Committee meeting
4 Wednesday 25 Elul	13 Friday 5 Tishri • 8:15pm, Shabbat Services, Rabbi Kahn and Daniel Chesir	21 Saturday 13 Tishri	27 Friday 19 Tishri • 8:15pm, Shabbat Services, Rabbi Kahn and Sue Douglass
5 Thursday 26 Elul • 7:30 Religious school meeting	14 Saturday 6 Tishri • 9:30am, Kadimah • 10am, Annual blood drive, Irwin Memorial • 4pm, Healing Service*	22 Sunday 14 Tishri Sukkot Begins • 12pm, Sukkah building and decoration* • 6pm, Service, celebration and potluck*	28 Saturday 20 Tishri • 10:30am, Shabbat Services, Rabbi Kahn, 61 Ford St., San Francisco
6 Friday 27 Elul • 8:15pm, Shabbat Services, Mike Rankin and Guest	15 Sunday 7 Tishri • 10am, Annual CSZ cemetery visit*	23 Monday 15 Tishri	29 Sunday 21 Tishri Sukkot Ends Simchat Torah • 7pm, Services, Rabbi Kahn and Daniel Chesir* • 10:30am, Kaiser Brunch
7 Saturday 28 Elul • 9:30am, Kadimah	16 Monday 8 Tishri • 6:30pm, Va'ad meeting		29 Monday 22 Tishri Simchat Torah
8 Sunday 29 Elul Rosh Hashanah • 7:30pm, Ma'ariv*	17 Tuesday 9 Tishri Yom Kippur • 7:30pm, Kol Nidre*		
9 Monday 1 Tishri Rosh Hashanah • 10am, Shacharit, Musaf and Children's Service* • 1:30pm, Seudat Mitzvah (festive meal at Fort Point)*			

Note: Gray areas indicate religious services.

* See schedule of High Holidays services and events for details.

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

Anniversaries

- 9/15 Sanford Ira Friedman & Jerome Hipps
9/19 Richard P. Inlander & Ben Schalit
9/30 Blanche Blachman & Adrienne Forshay

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

Dr. Diane Sabin

CHIROPRACTOR

3892 24th Street, San Francisco, CA 94114 415/826-8300

Congregation Sha'ar Zahav

Member, Union Of American Hebrew Congregations



220 Danvers at Caselli

San Francisco, California 94114

QUESTIONNAIRE

CSZ is exploring the possibility of a Congregational trip to Israel. We'd like to get a general idea from potential participants on what this trip might look like.

Please complete the following Questionnaire and return it to the synagogue office no later than September 20, 1991.

PLEASE PRINT:

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

PHONE _____

Total length of Israel Tour:

_____ 10 days _____ 14 days _____ 18 days.

Timing:

____ Summer '92 ____ Autumn '92 ____ Winter '92-'93 ____ Spring '93

What are your total cost expectations?

____ \$1,800 ____ \$2,000 ____ \$2,500

How much of the tour should be professionally guided?

____ 100% ____ 75% ____ 50% ____ 25%

What is of particular interest to you in a visit to Israel?

Do you have friends who are interested in this tour? Please provide name(s), address, phone:

Please return to CSZ, 220 Danvers, San Francisco, CA 94114 by no later than September 20, 1991. Please mark your envelope "Israel Trip."

The meeting of interested participants will meet at Sha'ar Zahav on Wednesday, September 25, 1991 at 7:30 p.m.

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